

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the following amended paragraph(s) and/or section(s) (deleted matter is shown by strikethrough and added matter is shown by underlining):

Page 7, lines 25-line 26,

-- Fig. 18A is (left) a schematic side view of a two-component embolism protection device downstream from a plaque deposit and (right) an enlarged cross sectional view of an embodiment of a surface capillary fiber.--

Page 24, line 29 to page 25, line 9,

-- Other suitable memory polymers include, for example, hydrophilic polymer fibers, including, for example, polyester fibers. Suitable fibers are described, for example, in U.S. Patent 5,200,248 to Thompson et al., entitled "Open Capillary Channel Structures, Improved Process For Making Channel Structures And Extrusion Die For Use Therein," incorporated herein by reference. The capillary channel structures described in Thompson are collapse-resistant, and the capillary channel of the structures of Thompson are open along a substantial length in the axial direction of the structure such that fluid can be received from outside of the channel as a result of such open construction. These fibers can be heated gently to cause the fibers to curl. The curled fibers can be stretched straight at room temperature. Upon heating to body temperature, the fibers resume the curled configuration. By using a bundle of the stretched fibers, the individual fibers of the bundle curl upon delivery due to body heat/hydration to form a fibrous filter mat that can entrap emboli within the fibrous network. The appropriate number of fibers for the bundle can be selected empirically to yield the desired packing density in the resulting mat and corresponding effective pore size.

Page 35, lines 11-21,

-- As noted above with respect to Fig. 12, the embolism protection device can comprise two distinct portions or similarly can be used with a separate but associated drug delivery article. Use of such devices in the context of the application of a stent is shown in Figs. 18A, 18B and 18C. As shown in Fig. 18A(left), a two component embolism protection device 270 is placed downstream from a plaque deposit 272 in vessel 274. In this embodiment, device 270 comprises a tether 276 to facilitate removal, although other removal approaches can be used. Fig. 18A(right) is a schematic enlarged view of a cross section of a surface capillary fiber showing one or more grooves 271 on the surface of the fiber of the embolism protection device 270. As shown in Fig. 18B, a stent 278 has been applied to plaque deposit 272 with the potential generation of emboli 280, which are trapped by embolism protection device 270. As shown in Fig. 18C, an embolism trapping portion 282 of device 270 is being removed using tether 276, while a bioactive agent eluting portion 284 of device 270 remains in vessel 274.--